EXCISE

(197)

INGRAM DEBRA 05/27/82 1223732 PRINTER: LJ
01 SAN SALVADOR 8987
SECRET / EXDIS OR ONLY EXDIS
SECRET
PAGE 01 SAN SA 08987 1223422
ACTION SS-32
INFO OCT-01 AIS-22 SSO-02 /031 W
---------- 008587 1223442 /61
O 1222322 AUG 81
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8284
S E C R E T SAN SALVADOR 8987
EXDIS
E. O. 12065: RDS-4 8/12/2021 (GETTINGER, CARL) OR-P
TAGS: PINS, PINT, CIES, ES
SUBJ: PERHAPS SOME PROGRESS IN THE CHURCHWOMEN MURDERS
1. (S-ENTIRE TEXT.)
2. [redacted] TOLD EMBOFF EVENING 7D, B1-EB
8/11 THAT [redacted] HELD A MEETING WITH B1-ED
[redacted] EARLIER IN THE DAY TO TELL THEM THAT THE SIX
GUARDSMEN IMPLICATED IN THE MURDER OF THE AMERICAN CHURCH-
WOMEN WOULD BE REMANDED TO A CIVILIAN TRIBUNAL. (NO DATE
AS SPECIFIED.) ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, [redacted] SAID HE HAD B1-ED
BROUGHT ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF TURNING THE SIX OVER TO
A MILITARY JUDGE BUT THAT THIS COULD NOT BE DONE SINCE
THE CRIME WAS PROPERLY WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF THE CIVILIAN B1-ED
COURTS. THE AMERICANS, [redacted] IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID,
HAVE BALLISTIC EVIDENCE THAT LINKS THE SIX TO THE CRIME; HE
MUST, THEREFORE TURN THE GROUP OVER. WHAT HAPPENS TO
THE SIX ONCE THEY ARE REMANDED "DEPENDS ON THEM", [redacted] IS B1-ED
QUOTED AS SAYING. OUR SOURCE ADDED HIS PERSONAL BELIEF [redacted] B1-ED
(WHICH SEEMED TO DERIVE FROM SOMETHING [redacted] HAD TOLD [redacted]
[redacted] "THAT IF THE SIX CAN KEEP A STRAIGHT FACE BEFORE
THE JUDGE AND NOT LET ON THAT THEY WERE INVOLVED THEN THEY
STILL STAND A CHANCE OF GETTING AWAY WITH THE CRIME".
FURTHER [redacted] BELIEVED--WITH EVIDENT SATISFACTION-- 7D, B1-ED
SECRET
SECRET
PAGE 02 SAN SA 08987 1223422
THAT THEIR FACES WOULD RAPIDLY GIVE THEM AWAY.
3. OUR SOURCE COULD NOT GIVE US A GOOD READ-OUT ON THE B1-ED
REACTION OF [redacted] HE WILL RETURN ON AUGUST
14 TO TALK WITH US AT GREATER LENGTH ABOUT THIS AND OTHER
QUESTIONS. MEANWHILE, WE WILL TRY TO CONFIRM HIS STORY WITH
ANOTHER [redacted] SOURCE WHO, ALTHOUGH LESS FORTHCOMING THAN HIS B1-ED
COLLEAGUE, HAS EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO SEE JUSTICE DONE IN
THIS CASE.
4. OTHER TOPICS OF THE CONVERSATION WILL BE COVERED SEPTEL.
STANLEY
SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/GDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [redacted] DATE 8 JUL 1982
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED